

Statistical Section Narrative and Table of Contents

This part of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' comprehensive annual financial report presents detailed information as a context for understanding what the information in the financial statements, note disclosures, and required supplementary information says about the Commonwealth's overall financial health.

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Financial Trends

These schedules contain trend information to help the reader understand how the Commonwealth's financial performance and fiscal health has changed over time. The schedules presented from an entity wide perspective are only included from FY02 and forward, coinciding with the implementation of GASB 34. Fund perspective statements are presented for the last ten fiscal years, except where noted. Schedules included are:

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¹ Tax Year 2002 is the last "closed" tax year

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The Problem We All Live With

LOOK, January 14, 1964, Licensed by Norman Rockwell Licensing, Niles, IL.

The Problem We All Live With appeared in *Look* magazine in 1964. This image of a young student's courageous steps upon entering a newly desegregated school captures the essence of the civil rights movement. After the Supreme Court ordered an end to unequal and inferior education, similar scenes occurred for many years across America, in countless schools and colleges, large, small, rural, and urban.

On November 14, 1960, six-year-old Ruby Bridges became the unwitting symbol of the nation's struggle for civil rights and integration, as armed federal marshals escorted her past throngs of angry protestors to attend her first day of school. This summer, Ruby Bridges Hall, the first African American child to enter a formerly all-white school in New Orleans, Louisiana, was reunited with her former teacher at the opening of the Norman Rockwell Museum exhibition *Hometown Hero: Citizen of the World, Rockwell in Stockbridge*.